



NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
September 11, 2003

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COOKEVILLE COMPANY AWARDED HONOR FOR WORKPLACE SAFETY *CASSEMCO INC GETS AWARD FOUR CONSECUTIVE YEARS*

NASHVILLE-Tennessee Department of Labor & Workforce Development Commissioner James Neeley, on behalf of Governor Phil Bredesen, today awarded the SHARP Award to Cassemco, Inc. in Cookeville, Tennessee. The Safety and Health Achievement Recognition Program (SHARP) Award is one of the state's highest honors for workplace safety and health.

In congratulating Cassemco officials and employees, Neeley said, "Cassemco workers have met the challenges of the SHARP Award for 4 consecutive years. Employees and management have worked hard to continue this demanding safety program. This determination demonstrates Cassemco's commitment to making Tennessee a safer place to work."

Cassemco manufactures medical and commercial foam products, protective sporting goods, automotive components, and military packaging. The processes used include die-cutting, fabrication, sewing and printing. Cassemco employs approximately 25 people.

Designed for the smaller employers (employing fewer than 250) in high-hazard industrial classifications, the SHARP Award program provides incentives and support for companies that are approved for participation.

The main incentive for participation in the SHARP program is the desire by employers to promote a safe and healthy workplace. The program also allows employers to be removed from programmed compliance inspection lists for a period of 12 months. TOSHA consultants work with companies to develop, implement, and continually improve workplace safety and health programs.

For more information on the SHARP Award program, contact TOSHA's Consultative Services office at 1-800-325-9901.

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